

THE AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please cancel currently pending Claims 1-10 without prejudice and add the following new claims.

1. (Canceled) An isolated Bolekine polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 111 of Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) capable of (i) enhancing the proliferation of immune cells or (ii) increasing infiltration of immune cells into a tissue in order to alleviate infection.

2. (Canceled) An isolated Bolekine polypeptide which is encoded by the cDNA insert of the vector deposited with the ATCC on October 31, 1997 as ATCC Deposit No. 209424 (DNA39523-1192).

3. (Canceled) An isolated Bolekine polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 34 to 111 of Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) capable of (i) enhancing the proliferation of immune cells, or (ii) increasing infiltration of immune cells into a tissue in order to alleviate infection.

4. (Canceled) An isolated Bolekine polypeptide consisting of the sequence of amino acids from 1 to 111 of Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2), or a fragment thereof, wherein said fragment is capable of enhancing the proliferation of immune cells or (ii) increasing infiltration of immune cells into a tissue in order to alleviate infection.

5. (Canceled) A chimeric molecule comprising the Bolekine polypeptide as in Claim 1, fused to a heterologous amino acid sequence.

6. (Canceled) The chimeric molecule of Claim 5, wherein said heterologous amino acid sequence is an epitope tag sequence.

7. (Canceled) A composition of matter comprising the Bolekine polypeptide as in Claim 1, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8 (Canceled) The composition of matter of Claim 7 comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the Bolekine polypeptide.

9. (Canceled) An article of manufacture, comprising:
a container;
a label on said container; and

a composition of matter comprising a Bolekine polypeptide of Claim 1, contained within said container, wherein label on said container indicates that said composition of matter can be used for treating an immune related disorder.

10. (Canceled) An agonist of Bolekine polypeptide capable of alleviating the immune related disorders of: psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease, renal disease, arthritis, immune mediated alopecia, stroke, encephalitis or hepatitis in a mammal.

11. (New) A method of enhancing the proliferation of immune cells comprising contacting said immune cells with an effective amount of Bolekine polypeptide as shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2).

12. (New) A method of enhancing the infiltration of immune cells in a mammal, comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of Bolekine polypeptide as shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2).

13. (New) The method of Claim 12, wherein said immune cells are mononuclear cells, eosinophils or polymorphonuclear neutrophils (PMNs).

14. (New) A method of alleviating infection in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of Bolekine polypeptide as shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2).

15. (New) A method of alleviating an immune related disorder in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of Bolekine polypeptide as shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2).

16. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein the immune related disorder is psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease, renal disease, arthritis, immune-mediated alopecia, stroke, encephalitis, MS or hepatitis.

17. (New) A method of inhibiting the proliferation of T-lymphocytes, said method comprising contacting T-lymphocytes with an effective amount of an antagonist of a Bolekine polypeptide, wherein the proliferation of said T-lymphocytes is inhibited.

18. (New) A method of diagnosing an immune related disease in a mammal, said method comprising detecting the level of expression of a gene encoding Bolekine polypeptide (a) in a test sample of tissue cells obtained from the mammal, and (b) in a control sample of known normal tissue cells of the same cell type, wherein a higher or lower level of expression of said gene in the test sample as compared to the control sample is indicative of the presence of an immune related disease in the mammal from which the test tissue cells were obtained.